

banquet. The next meeting is to be at South San Francisco on the first Monday in August.

WOOD C. BAKER, Secretary.

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY.

The regular meeting of the Santa Cruz County Medical Society was held at the offices of Dr. A. W. Bixby in Watsonville Monday evening, August 5, 1907.

The following members were present: Drs. A. W. Bixby, E. E. Briggs, G. S. Easterday, J. A. McGuire, Guy Miller, S. T. Pope, E. E. Porter, S. C. Rodgers, J. M. York, P. K. Watters, F. H. Koepke.

General letter No. 13 from secretary of the state society was read. The secretary was instructed to order 50 copies of the "Great American Fraud," a pamphlet reprinting the articles which appeared in Collier's, from the A. M. A., to distribute among citizens of the county.

The subject of investigating illegal practitioners in the county was brought before the society. A general discussion followed, after which Dr. S. T. Pope and Dr. J. M. York were appointed by the chair to investigate and report at the next meeting.

Dr. S. C. Rodgers presented a clinical case of ankylosis of both hip joints in a boy nine years old. The case was discussed by members present and also examined with the X-rays.

It was decided to have a social meeting in Santa Cruz at the Casino on Saturday evening, September 7th, and all members were requested to bring their wives.

F. H. KOEPKE, Secretary.

PUBLICATIONS.

Manual of Diseases of the Eye. By Charles H. May, Chief of Clinic and Instructor in Ophthalmology, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Medical Department, Columbia University, New York—1890-1903; Ophthalmic Surgeon to the City Hospitals, Randall's Island, New York; Consulting Ophthalmologist to the French Hospital, to the Gouverneur Hospital, and to the Red Cross Hospital, New York; Adjunct Ophthalmic Surgeon to Mt. Sinai Hospital, etc. Fifth edition revised with 362 original illustrations, with 22 plates, with 63 colored figures, 1907; \$2.00 net.

Whitman's Orthopedic Surgery. A treatise on Orthopedic Surgery. By Royal Whitman, M. D., Instructor in Orthopedic Surgery in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York; Chief of Orthopedic Department in Vanderbilt Clinic, New York. Third edition, revised and enlarged. Octavo, 900 pages, with 554 illustrations, mostly original. Cloth, \$5.50, net. Lea Brothers & Co., Philadelphia and New York, 1907.

The author has avowedly written this book for the student and the general practitioner. From the viewpoint of the orthopedic specialist it is in places unsatisfying. What has been written is always admirable, but there are many subjects upon which we would gladly hear more from so eminent an authority. Again and again where we had looked for illuminating discussions we find but the barest facts. A student's quiz compend could hardly be more terse; and we are forced to put down the book as far as ever from the solution of our problems. On the other hand we do not know where the student or the general practitioner could find a more complete, lucid, and in every way helpful discussion of joint tuberculosis, of distortions of the foot, of congenital dislocations of the hip,

or of the several other commoner conditions to which whole chapters are devoted.

The trend of orthopedic surgery of late years has been toward the prevention of deformity. This necessitates the early recognition by the general practitioner of the predisposing causes of deformity, of their significance and of the mechanical conditions involved, an idea which the author has kept prominently before the reader throughout the book.

The plans of treatment advised are directly within the reach of every one, and those which the author himself has proved to be efficient. Should a colleague ask us to select for him a treatise on orthopedic surgery, saying that he expected to be compelled to take care of his own cases, we would unhesitatingly recommend to him this book of Dr. Whitman's.

The first 108 pages of the book are devoted to the discussion of tuberculous disease of the spine. After considering the pathology, etiology, and symptoms in general, the examination of the several regions of the spine, beginning with the lumbar, and including with each its differential diagnosis, is taken up. How the history should be elicited and the physical signs recorded, is shown at length. Here and there throughout the book, Dr. Whitman is most happy in the way in which he expresses the broad principles governing treatment. We shall not hesitate to quote these observations as they seem germane to the purposes of this review. Speaking of the general principles of Mechanical Treatment, we read "As the ultimate deformity of Pott's disease is, in great degree, caused by the force of gravity acting on a weakened spine, the most effective form of treatment must be fixation in the horizontal position, for in this position the strain of use and the superincumbent weight can be removed completely." This is accomplished by placing the patient upon the modified Bradford frame with which and its adjustment the text deals minutely. He adds that horizontal fixation "is of course a treatment not complete in itself, since it must be supplemented by the usual supports when the erect attitude is again assumed. Its duration varies from six to eighteen months." "Personally," he adds, "I have never seen other than favorable results from this method of treatment"—nor, for that matter, have we.

Chapter II deals with the non-tuberculous affections of the spine from syphilis to injury of the sacroiliac articulations. Twenty-two affections are touched upon in as many pages which also include twelve illustrations. This was a disappointing chapter in the first edition of this book, which appeared seven years ago, and is so still. To take a single example, the caption "Tabetic Deformity of the Spine" is dismissed in three and a half lines. "In rare instances deformity of the spine, either posterior or lateral, appears as a complication of locomotor ataxia. Fifteen cases are recorded. The characteristics of this form of osteo-arthritis are described elsewhere." The "elsewhere" begins on page 290 where rather less than two pages are devoted to the whole subject of Charcot's joints. But two references are given, and no cognizance has been had apparently of the work of Kurt-Frank (Centralblatt für Grenzgebiete der Medizin u. Chirurgie Bd. VIII Nos. 15, 16, 17:—1904.) who from a literature of 74 references has collected 27 cases presenting unquestionably this condition. Four of them had come to autopsy. The fact that during the past year two of these cases came under our own observation and in the preceding year another, inclines us to accept Frank's contention that the condition is of commoner occurrence than is generally supposed, but masked by the other symptoms of tabes. Special interest attaches to Charcot's joints of the lower lumbar of the spine, because